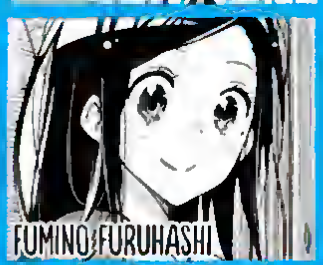
WE NEVER LEARN

BY TAISHI TSUTSUI

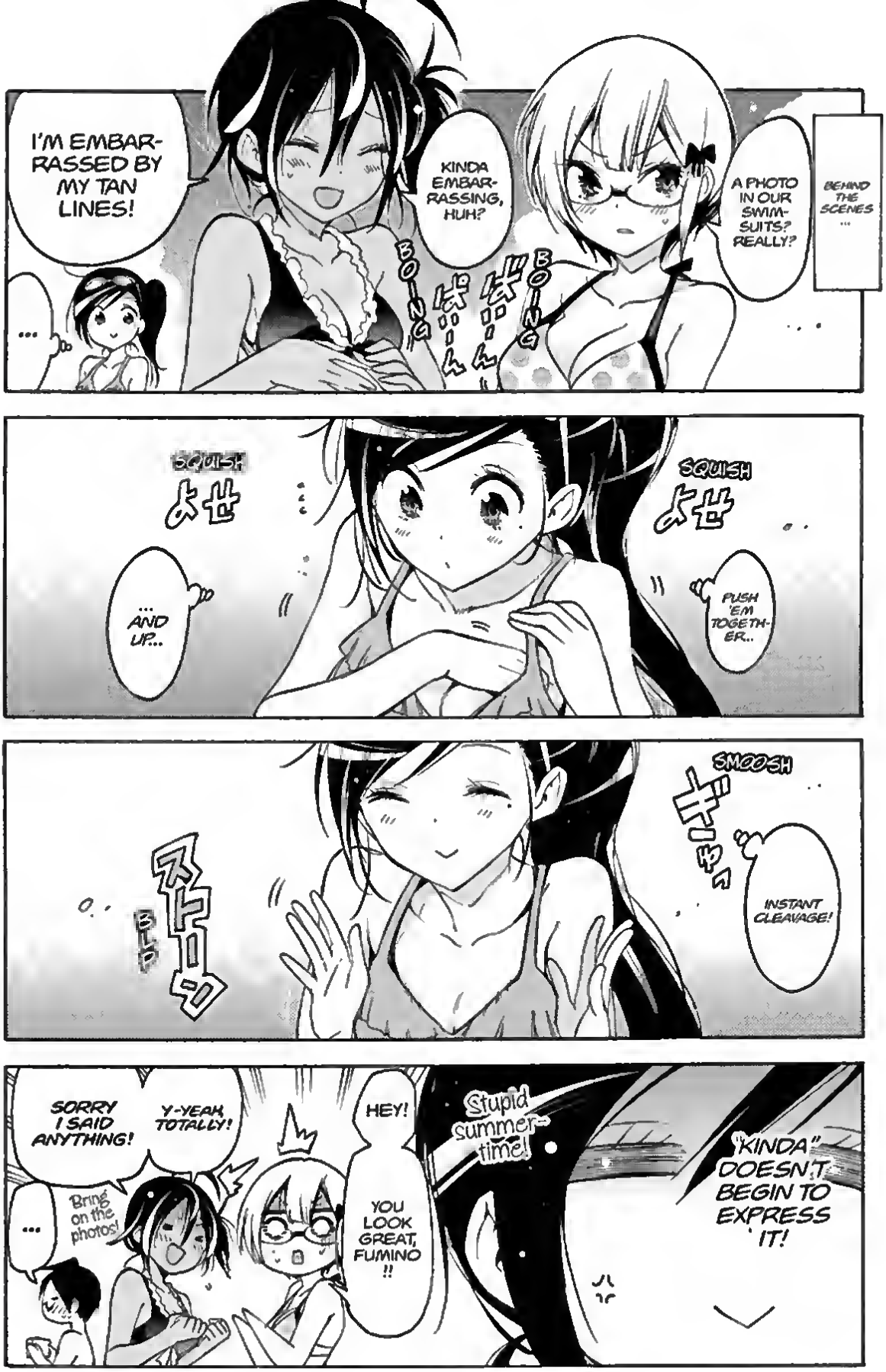
Nariyuki Yuiga is a self-professed super student. He's not naturally gifted in the sciences or arts like his classmates Rizu and Fumino, but he does have pluck and persistence! He's such a good student that he finally realizes his dream of obtaining a scholarship to college, which is a great relief since his family is dirt-poor! But there's a catch...

PREVIOUSLY IN *WE NEVER LEARN*:

Nariyuki desperately wants to obtain a college scholarship to improve the quality of his life, especially since his father has died and left the family destitute. And much to Nariyuki's joy and surprise, he finds out from the school principal that he has earned that scholarship, but under one condition... Nariyuki must tutor science whiz Rizu and the literary genius Fumino to help them also get into college, which should be a breeze since they're geniuses. However, he quickly finds the opposite to be true, since Rizu wants to study literature and Fumino science! Making matters worse, those two geniuses suck at everything other than their field of specialty! But that's not all—now he has to tutor super athlete Uruka in English, which presents quite the problem since Uruka hates studying more than anything. To make matters worse, Yuiga accidentally learns that Uruka has a crush on him!



Question 27: A Genius Is Frightened of the Horrible X, While He Ponders Over It


BEHIND THE SCENES...
A PHOTO IN OUR SWIMSUITS? REALLY?
KINDA EMBARRASSING, HUH?
BOING
ばいん
BOING
ばいん
I'M EMBARRASSED BY MY TAN LINES!
...
SQUISH
よせ
SQUISH
よせ
PUSH 'EM TOGETHER..
...AND UP...
SMOOSH
ぎゅっ
INSTANT CLEAVAGE!
ストン
BLD
"KINDA" DOESN'T BEGIN TO EXPRESS IT!
Stupid summertime!
HEY!
YOU LOOK GREAT, FUMINO!!
Y-YEAH, TOTALLY!
SORRY I SAID ANYTHING!
Bring on the photos!
...

CHIIII
CHIIII
World History B
...
IT'S KIRISU SENSEI...
BA-BAM
WHY'S SHE SITTING OUT IN FRONT OF HER HOUSE IN THIS HEAT?
YOINK
?!
HELLO, SENSEI.
SEE YOU LATER ...
BETTER GET HOME AND STUDY!
WELL, ANY-WAY..

201

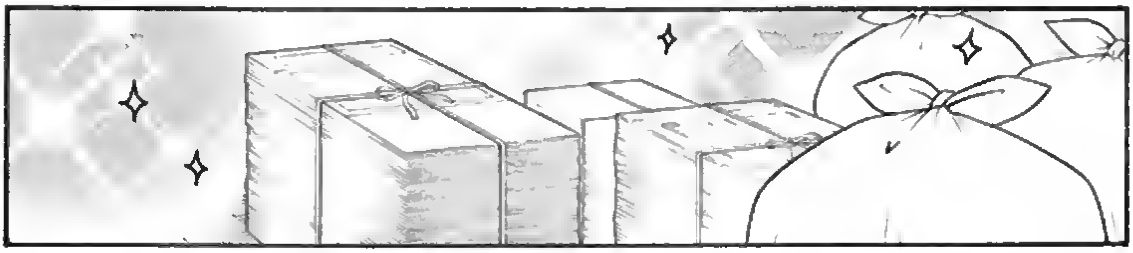
ビーちゃあ…
SQUALOR...
BUT I JUST CLEANED UP...
BELIEVE IT OR NOT...
I'VE BEEN REALLY MAKING AN EFFORT TO KEEP IT TIDY...

OH...
THERE WAS... AN... INSECT...

UM ...
WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?
もじ…
FIDGET
ガサ
RUSTL
...

SHAKKA
DOO
RUSTL
OH!
HUH?
AN... INSECT?
SO, YOU WANT ME TO GET RID OF IT?
O-OKAY...
RUSTLE RUSTLE
DON'T SAY IT!!
STOP! PERMIS-SION DENIED!
A CO...
OH, RIGHT!
WHA...
SQU-IRM
...!
...!!
IF YOU DON'T LET ME GO... I CAN'T...
UM.. SENSEI ...
MMFF ?!
GRAB

SHIVR
SHAKA
WOW... SHE'S REALLY TERRIFIED OF IT...
DANG... IT GOT AWAY...
SHOOP



IS THAT SO?
I FULLY INTEND TO, YUIGA!
OF COURSE!
There.
NICE AND TIDY.
SEE IF YOU CAN KEEP IT NEAT...
...THIS TIME.

I CAN HELP YOU STUDY.
HUH?
THE INSECT IS STILL LURKING SOME-WHERE.

GRAB
WAIT!
OKAY, THEN... I'D BETTER GO HOME AND STUDY N...

I'LL DO ANYTHING.
JUST DON'T LEAVE ME HERE ALONE.
SHE'LL DO ANYTHING?!
I GUESS THIS IS WORKING OUT FOR THE BEST!
I DO WORK REALLY PRODUCTIVELY WHEN I'M WITH KIRISU SENSEI.
WOW...
SKRIT
SKRIT
DIING DOONG
ピーンポーン
Speaking of which...
OH!
I'LL GET IT!
YOU'RE WELCOME TO EAT WITH ME.
I ORDERED TAKEOUT FOR DINNER.
Should be here soon.
OH! GEE... THANKS...
...
GRRRGUL
My wallet...
KUSAKA
HELLO?

OGATA UDON DELIVERY!
TWO LARGE ORDERS OF SHISO LEAF TEMPURA UDON.
THAT'S ¥1,280..
HUH?

SHUL
ULRP

GLANCE
THANK YOU.
SUCH A WELL-ORGANIZED SPACE, SENSEI.
SHE'S STAYING? WHAT ABOUT HER DELIVERIES ?!
I'M THE ONE WHO CLEANED IT!

TUG

!

BA-BAM
WHEN DID SHE CHANGE CLOTHES ?!
WAIT A SEC...
This person...

WHAT IS SHE THINKING?!
YIKES!! IF LOOKS COULD KILL...
STAAARE
じとおお
POUT
ぷくぅ
TUG
ぎゅ...
!
I SHOULD JUST EXPLAIN THE CIRCUM-STANCES ...
SHE HAS SOME BAD HISTORY WITH KIRISU SENSEI. I BET SHE'S UPSET I'M HERE...
RIGHT ...
OH...SHE DOESN'T WANT THAT.
SHE DOESN'T WANT TO ADMIT TO HER STUDENT SHE'S AFRAID OF A BUG!
ZZING
ゴゴゴ
QUIVER
ふるふる
QUIVER
THERE'S SO MUCH TENSION BETWEEN THEM...
TUG
ぎゅー
Sheesh...
TUG
ぎゅー
THIS IS SO AWKWARD...

HEY... OGATA...
GOT ANY BOARD GAMES WITH YOU TODAY?
THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO PATCH THINGS UP!
WAIT...
HUH?
YES... A FEW ...
ALL RIGHT!
GLOW
WE'LL GET THE GOOD VIBES GOING WITH A GAME!
THAT SHOULD BREAK THE ICE...!!
BAT.
TURTLE BUG!
...
THAT'S NOT A BAT.

I'M SORRY, OGATA! I FORGOT YOU'RE SUPER BAD AT GAMES!
AND SENSEI HAS BEEN MERCILESS AT TAKING HER DOWN...
SLUMMP
I WIN AGAIN...
YOU'VE LOST 30 GAMES IN A ROW, OGATA.
STILL WANT TO KEEP GOING?
SO MUCH FOR BREAKING THE ICE...
GEEZ.. I WANNA GO HOME...
ZZING
MAN...
KU-RR
GIT-
...
HEY... OGATA ...
I'LL MAKE SOME COFFEE.
WHA...
WE SHOULD GET BACK TO STUDYING.
WELL, YOU KNOW...
..EVERYONE HAS THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAK-NESSES.
DROP

UM...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN THIS, BUT...
THE TRUTH IS...
SOMETIMES SOMEONE REALLY CARES ABOUT YOU...
...AND IT CAN BE HARD TO SEE.
HUH?
MAYBE IT HASN'T ALWAYS SEEMED THAT WAY...
BUT SOME PEOPLE HAVE DIFFICULTY SHOWING HOW THEY REALLY FEEL...
IF POSSIBLE...
...I HOPE YOU CAN OPEN YOUR HEART...
DO...
...YOU MEAN...
BLUSH

ARE YOU...
...SO KIRISU SENSEI...
YOU KNOW...
THERE'S AN AWKWARDNESS SOMETIMES...
...AND IT CAN LEAD TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS...
BUT THERE'S REAL LOVE IN CARING ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS...
COULD YOU CLARIFY...
WOBBLE
AND USE THE ACTIVE VOICE?
HUH?! SORRY!
GEEZ... OGATA'S CORRECTING MY SENTENCE STRUCTURE NOW!
...THE SUBJECT?
YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, OGATA!!
REAL LOVE? CARING ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS?
THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
DROP THIS NONSENSE.
I DON'T SEE THAT AT ALL!
POUT

EEEK!
KLATTER
KLATTER
?!
FLAIL FLAIL
WHA...
KUHAK
WHAT'S WRONG, SENSEI?!
KA-
VOOSH
YIKES!!
KRASH
UM... SENSEI?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THE B-B-B-BUG...
SHF

BA-
BA-
BA-
BAM
SCUTTLE

CAN'T SEEM TO MOVE MY LEGS...
I... I CAN'T.
THIS IS REALLY SEVERE!!
SEN-SEI...
COULD YOU GET OUT OF THE WAY, PLEASE?

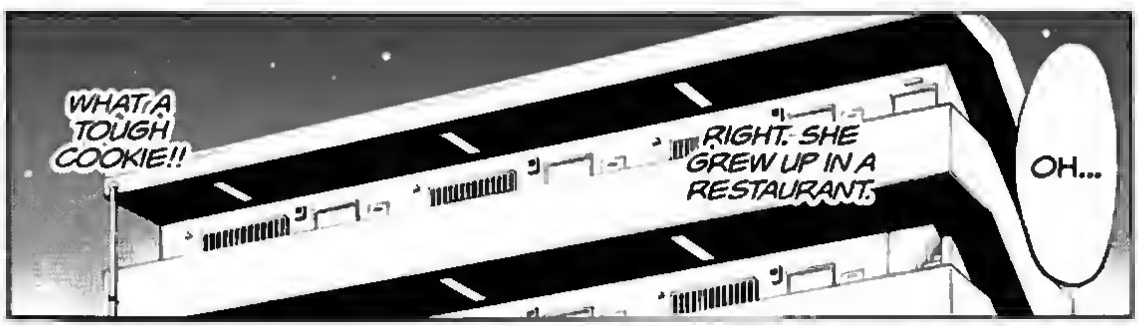
SHIVER SHIVER
OH. THAT BUG FROM EARLIER ...
OKAY. THIS TIME I'VE GOT IT...

OH!

GLARE
SO...
...
A TEACHER'S LOVE IS CARING ABOUT HER STUDENTS' SUCCESS, IS IT?
OGATA.. I'M PRETTY SURE YOU'RE GETTING THE WRONG IDEA..
WATCH OUT, OGATA !!
OH!
RUN !!
SCUTTLE
Ooh!! A cutie with glasses! My type!!
!

KA-SPLAK!
WELL, WELL!
I SEE WE HAVE AN UNINVITED GUEST.
(RESTAURANT INDUSTRY EUPHEMISM)
KRUNCH

...
WHAT?
?


WHAT A TOUGH COOKIE!!
RIGHT. SHE GREW UP IN A RESTAURANT.
OH...

WELL...
THANK YOU FOR THAT, OGATA.
NOT AT ALL.
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS ORDERING UDON.
AND ...
SEEING YOU STUDY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE...
I SEE THAT YOU STILL FREEZE UP WHEN YOU COME ACROSS ABSTRACT TEXT.
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN TEST INTO A LITERARY SCHOOL LIKE THAT?
ZING
I'M WORKING TO OVERCOME THAT BY HONING MY ABILITY TO DECIPHER NUANCE AND METAPHOR!
I'M ON IT!
SO MUCH FOR MY RECONCI-LIATION PLAN!!
THIS IS BAD!
YIKES!
BUT YOU ALWAYS ...
NO, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO...
WORMP
...
...SHE WAS SO SCARED OF BUGS.
I WAS KINDA SUR-PRISED...

WHEN WE WERE WORKING TOGETHER...
...I HAD NO IDEA SHE HAD ANY WEAKNESSES OR FEARS...
I GUESS...
...I WASN'T REALLY PAYING ATTENTION.
絆方うどん
OH, I THINK SHE HAS PLENTY...
THAT TEACHER...
SO...
PERHAPS...
THERE'S REAL LOVE IN CARING...
...ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS...
...THERE ARE A LOT OF OTHER SIDES TO HER...
...THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN YET...
...FOR LACK OF TRYING.
OH...?

IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, YUIGA...
...I NEVER WOULD HAVE EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
MY PLAN...
...WASN'T A TOTAL FAILURE AFTER ALL...
BY THE WAY, YUIGA ...
...IF THERE'S A BUG AT MY HOUSE...
...WILL YOU COME TO MY RESCUE TOO?
HUH? WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT IN THAT?
Seems like you've got it covered
...
Hmph!
OH NO! DID I SAY THE WRONG THING AGAIN?!

TO BE CONTINUED...